[XXXVth Year.] THE [No. 1710.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1779.

From the PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

NUMBER VIII.

THE court of France easily rejecting every offer of Great Britain, paid [illegible] attention to the people of America, with whom it now remained to adopt a line of true policy, and to fix her beſt intereſt. A nation leſs wiſe would have thought of nothing more than to extract from us ſome conceſſion of excluſive commerce, or the guarantee of ſome adjoining territory, or the ſtipulation of a ſum of money to be paid at a future day. Nor would it be without reaſon that a demand of this nature ſhould be made, if we conſider the riſk, and the expences of a war to which, on our account, ſhe would be unavoidably expoſed. But France, calculating on a larger ſcale, and for a permanent connection, wiſhed to make us friends, ſo that though in this caſe ſhe might not draw from us one immediate and direct advantage, yet ſhe might lay the foundation of a thouſand that would eaſily ariſe to her from the grateful ſentiments of a virtuous people. It is thus that the huſbandman plants his grain in the earth, and, in due time, reaps from it ſixty or an hundred fold.

With men in common life, a providence of futurity is that which diſtinguiſhes the wiſe from the unwiſe. That man is accounted fooliſh who, unable to reſtrain his paſſions, ſpares not the enjoyment of a momentary pleaſure, though he thereby prevents the exiſtence of a thouſand others, that, were it ſuffered to remain, would ſpring from it. The ſavages of Louiſane, ſays the preſident Monteſquieu, "when they want fruit, cut down the tree, and collect the fruit; there is deſpotiſm for you." Nor is it only deſpotiſm, but all unjuſt treatment, and even all unequal compact between men in any ſituation whatſoever. An immediate ſeeming intereſt may be drawn from it; but it can, in no degree, be laſting.

Moſt treaties that the world has ever known, have been made for a preſent exigence. A nation preſſed in war has ſought the aſſiſtance of a neighbour, and in order to obtain it, has been fain to concede advantages which, as they were extorted from her neceſſity, and not the gift of choice, it will be her great object to endeavour to regain.

The nation ſo aſſiſting can expect nothing more than the bare fulfilment of the ſtipulation, and for a convenient time; while by acting more generouſly ſhe might have reaped advantages, not ſo immediate and direct, yet more extenſive, and at the ſame time ſhe might have laſtingly ſecured the friendſhip of the nation in whoſe behalf ſhe was induced to appear. It is a maxim in common life, which I quote as lawyers do the common law, "never to do our kindneſſes by halves." We almoſt hate the man who does us half a favour. Our neceſſity may engage us to receive it; but we deſpiſe the parſimony of the manner in which it is beſtowed.

From theſe obſervations it will be evident, that France has acted wiſely in her treaty with America. By going farther than ſhe might have done, and ſurpriſing us with more than we had any reaſon to expect, ſhe has made us friends for ever. There is oftentimes, but a little difference between a kind act and one greatly generous, and yet the one commands affection only, and deſerves our thanks, while the other wraps the whole heart in gratitude, and calls forth the higheſt praiſe. But while we ſhew that France in her treaty with America has made a wiſe judgment of our ſituation, and purſued her beſt intereſt in connection with us; we are not to be unmindful at the ſame time that ſhe entertained a real goodneſs," or predilection "for our cauſe." This was evident, in the firſt place, from the volunteers of her nation, who at the commencement of the war and in the progreſs of it came to ſerve in our army. For we may be well aſſured, from what we know of the genius of the monarchy, that gentlemen of good rank and of fair hopes, would not have lightly embarked in a cauſe which was the object of the diſpleaſure of the prince. On the contrary, the ardour which they manifeſted, the bravery which they exerciſed, the warmth with which they eſpouſed, and fought in our behalf, were a full proof that they were under the encouragement of the frown of the ſovereign or the nation for what they had ſo done, when they ſhould return home.

It was evident, in the ſecond place, from the affection of the whole nation ſpreading like the arms of a ſmooth bay, and embracing, with a cordial love the people of America, that they were warm and engaged in our cauſe. A ſtranger from the continent was received amongſt them with hoſpitality and kindneſs; and to be an American was a ſufficient introduction to every good word and to every good office in their power. The congreſs, the characters upon the continent, our preparations, our exertions, engroſſed the converſation of this amiable and ſympathiſing people. Their bright wits did not heſitate to write in our behalf. Prayers were put up in every convent "for the inſurgents" of America; a name by which we were then known in Europe. But what was equally agreeable and expreſſive of attachment, the ladies of the court ceaſed not to importune thoſe whom they apprehended to have influence in the councils of the ſovereign, to know of them when they would be pleaſed to ſend over to "help the little Americans;" and when it was replied to them, in a gay manner, that perhaps it did not conſiſt with the ſtate of the finances of the kingdom to afford aſſiſtance, it was generouſly declared by the ladies, that "they would give, each of them, their jewels and their diamond earrings, and they were perſuaded that her majeſty would do the ſame for that purpoſe." Theſe are ſmall circumſtances, but they ſhew the predilection of the nation in our favour.

If we enquire the cauſe of this we ſhall find it, firſt, in the temper of the human heart, which is fond of what approaches to the marvellous, and is always intereſted in behalf of the weak contending with the ſtrong. We wiſh well to thoſe who from ſmall beginnings and almoſt againſt probability overcome difficulties, and bid fair to attain their purpoſe. It is this principle that intereſts us in the fortune of the hero of a ſtory. We feel for his diſtreſſes, we rejoice at his ſucceſs; we are agitated by the changes of his fortune, and we make his cauſe our own. This may be remote from common obſervation, but, doubtleſs it is a principle ſtrong in men, and much of the kindneſs we receive from others may be owing to it. If a man is brave we wiſh to make him fortunate, and the aſcending, more than the deſcending, are the objects of our favour. Even in men of blameable ambition we admire the great efforts of the human ſoul; but when courage and reſource of thought is expended in a good cauſe, then with all the fervour of the mind we applaud it.

This argument I ſhall not draw to a great length; for, doubtleſs, the predilection of the nation was owing chiefly to a more obvious cauſe, the recollection of the injuries of Britain. France cannot but be pleaſed with an endeavour to depreſs the proud ſpirit of that haughty people. It was an abuſe of words in doctor Ferguſon to call France "the natural enemy" of America, but with great propriety ſhe may be called the natural enemy of Britain; and Britain, on the other hand, is the natural enemy of France. The two nations have been almoſt from their earlieſt hiſtory at war, and while the balance of Europe continues to be an object with the ſeveral ſtates, it is moſt probable, they will continue to obſerve the councils of each other, and at different intervals to be at war. For this reaſon they may be called the natural enemies of each other, and as Britain has been willing to coppreſs the power of France, ſo France muſt rejoice to ſee her rival humbled, and her tyrant power overthrown. The reſiſtance of America gave a life and reſurrection to the joys of France, and every battle won upon the continent, and every engagement in which we have been victorious upon ſea, has been felt by her with as much pleaſure as if thoſe had been obtained by her own generals and her own captains.

The "real goodneſs," or predilection for us, in the breaſt of the ſovereign, originated, doubtleſs, in ſome meaſure from the ſame ſource with the predilection of the nation. But, if the opinion which Europe entertains of his character is well founded, it alſo received great ſtrength from his love to our cauſe as the cauſe of juſtice. This young prince is univerſally ſaid to be a "great and good" monarch. He has made it the object of his reign, and it is his declared ambition to reconcile differences, to remove contention and to eſtabliſh peace throughout Europe. Hence it is that he is loved and truſted by the neighbouring powers, and they chuſe him the umpire of their debates.

War had again burſt out between the Porte and Ruſſia, and was about to heap the confines of both empires with carcaſes, and to ſwell the ſtreams of the Danube and the Neiſter with freſh blood; but the debate which related to the independency of Crim Tartary, and the free navigation of the Black Sea, was adjuſted, and peace finally concluded, in March laſt, by the ſole mediation of the young ſovereign on the throne of France. We have all heard the claims of the German princes and of the emperor, in the affair of the ſucceſſion to the Dutchy of Bavaria; and we all know that it has been greatly owing to the intermediation and good offices of the king of France that this affair, which was likely to involve the whole of Europe in a flame, has been ſo ſpeedily and ſo happily compromiſed. We may believe that a perſuaſion of the juſtice of our cauſe, and a "real goodneſs" for it, weighed not a little with him in his determination to aſſiſt us. It was the real intereſt of the nation to appear for us; but at the ſame time it was the generous love and affection of the prince that gave him readily to believe it to be ſo, and as ſuch to purſue it. Cold policy is often timid; and had he not been warm in our favour, it is poſſible that doubts of his ſucceſs, and fears of the power of Britain, and diſtruſt of our perſeverance would have cruſhed the ſpringing purpoſe of his mind, and have bound him down like Prometheus to the rock, unable to aſſiſt us. For it is to be confeſſed that the power of Britain, at the concluſion of the laſt war, had become greatly formidable. Nor were her threats and her confidence inferior to her ſucceſs. Like a boxer who had been victorious ſhe doubled up her fiſts, and ſhook them at every power of Europe. At the commencement of this war her confidence was encreaſed, not diminiſhed. She verily believed that a frown of her countenance would awe France into inactivity, and lock up the poor remains of her fleets in her harbours. The powers of Europe, deceived by her boaſts, or ſenſible of her gigantic ſtrength, were almoſt ready to believe that ſhe had it in her power to do all that ſhe ſeemed to threaten to her enemies. Yet in this ſtate of things did the noble ſoul of Louis XVI. burſt forth from every timid apprehenſion, and conſulting the welfare of his people, and of mankind, he eſpouſed our cauſe, and is, deſervedly, become dear to every American.

Poſterity will compare together George the third of England and the young monarch on the throne of France, as living in the ſame age, and filling the thrones of two rival kingdoms; but how unlike in temper, how diſſimilar in fate, how unequal in the fame which the world bears of them, will be found the two characters. Never, ſince the days of Cain and Abel, were men who lived in the ſame period more diverſe from each other; the one gloomy in his nature, and born for the deſtruction of his ſpecies; the other ſteady in his love for juſtice, labouring to reſtore peace; and when unable to effect it by the gentle arts of accommodation, rouſing all the ſtrength of an antient kingdom to bend it on the proud adverſary. It is admirable to conſider what the great virtues of one man may be able to effect. Lewis, like the ſun who kindles up the ſleeping ſparks of fire diffuſed through the ſyſtem, ſeems to have re-animated, in the early years of his reign, all the love of honour, courage, gallantry and heroiſm that has long adorned the annals of the nation. A prince of this magnanimity and goodneſs is ſufficient to irradiate the ſyſtem of an hundred kingdoms. When we conſider what George is and what Louis is, we cannot ſay that nature has been niggardly to this generation; for though the one has not "a ſingle virtue to redeem his ſoul from vice," the other is ennobled by a thouſand great and good qualities, and ſhines diſtinguiſhed for his virtue in the roll of princes.

THE HONEST POLITICIAN.

* ——*Monſtrum nulla virtute redemptum*
a vitiis. Juv.

Mr. WILKES's Speech, concluded from our laſt.

THE next in the commiſſion was only diſtinguiſhed by a ſet of principles wonderfully adapted to the ſpirit of coerſion and cruelty hitherto prevailing, the principles of penal law. (b) I have only heard of one other principle belonging to the gentleman, the principle, as well as practice, of paſſive obedience in the northern department. But, Sir, this gentleman carried with him the real ſecret of the negociation, and perhaps more extenſive powers than were given to his colleagues. He knew of the order to evacuate Philadelphia, an order ſo diſgraceful to our arms, ſo contrary to ſound policy, long before it was ſuſpected by either of the other commiſſioners, but he would not truſt them. The other (c) commiſſioner, who went from among us, poſſeſſed a ſuperior underſtanding, an happy temper, and a thorough knowledge of buſineſs. If ſucceſs had been attainable, I am perſuaded to his wiſdom, prudence, and temperate conduct, England had been indebted for the reſtoration of the bleſſing of peace. But alas! Sir, all the (ſplendid and unauthoriſed offers of the commiſſioners were, without heſitation, rejected. The happy moment was paſſed. The honourable gentleman knows the real friendſhip I bear him, and the eſteem I have of his rare and amiable qualities. In public life I have always found him manly, firm, and conſiſtent; in private engaging, ſocial, and friendly. Through the whole of this buſineſs he has followed the ſtrait path of duty, and held one uniform language to us and to the Americans. I have been ſo uſed to ſee him in the minority here, that he will excuſe me, if I figure to myſelf that in America likewiſe he continued in a minority with the commiſſioners, and that many things were tranſacted which he diſapproved, but to which he was obliged to ſubmit. He might think himſelf precluded, as we are here by many ſtrange acts of the preſent majority of this houſe. On that ſuppoſition I ſhall not ſcruple to treat the proceedings of the commiſſioners with freedom, and hold myſelf ſecure of his indulgence.

I mentioned, Sir, the unauthoriſed offers made to congreſs. The commiſſioners went exceedingly beyond the powers given them by the act of parliament, the only ſource of their power. Did they, Sir, dare to accept ſecret powers from the crown more ample than thoſe granted by the legiſlature? their conduct is very ſuſpicious. I well remember ſix propoſitions were held out to congreſs by the commiſſioners letter of the 9th of June. The three firſt, to conſent to a ceſſation of hoſtilities by ſea and land, to reſtore free intercourſe as well as to revive mutual affection, and to extend every freedom to trade that our reſpective intereſts can require, were founded in the authority of the act of parliament, which created the commiſſion. The three laſt were a direct uſurpation on the rights of the legiſlative body.

An offer was made by the commiſſioners to concur in meaſures calculated to diſcharge the debts of America, and to raiſe the credit and value of the paper circulation. It was artfully worded, but perfectly underſtood, Sir, both in America and at home, that we were to take on our ſhoulders, already bowed down to the earth, the burthen of the American debts, of the mighty ſums raiſed by congreſs to fight their battles againſt us.

The debts of the two countries were to be conſolidated into one enormous maſs, and provided for by a compliant parliament in the ſame manner. So extravagant an idea muſt fill every man with ſurpriſe and indignation. I give the country gentlemen joy on this occaſion. They never ſtuck from their maſter, however unreaſonable he may prove to them, to their country. They will now ſurely acknowledge with gratitude the fairneſs, the ſincerity, the great tenderneſs, and kindneſs of their favourite miniſter. At the firſt murmur of an American war, the noble lord with the blue ribband expreſsly held out to them a ſolid and ſubſtantial revenue by the taxation of America, in aid of their land-tax, and other heavy burthens, now, ſo far from attempting to lighten their load, he offers America to throw on the ſhoulders of England the additional weight of all her accumulated taxes. The moſt ſhort-ſighted of all animals is undoubtedly our country gentleman of the true old breed. He has ſcarcely the ſagacity of his pointer. Formerly he was very ſtubborn, and reſtiff, and could not be driven forward. Now he is perfectly tame, fawns on his feeder, and is eaſily managed. Mr. Pitt firſt ſeized him, and, after ſome little ſtruggling, plunged him over head and ears in the German war. The noble lord has gone further, and tranſported him, weary and exhauſted, beyond the Atlantic, where he is likely to continue much longer than he was in Germany.

The commiſſioners likewiſe agreed that no military force ſhould be kept up in the different ſtates of North-America, without the conſent of the general congreſs, or particular aſſemblies. This was in effect making them a ſovereign, independent ſtate, if no military force is to compel the refractory, or quell the rebellious. This conceſſion is certainly not warranted by any clauſe in the act appointing commiſſioners, and was a manifeſt, unneceſſary uſurpation of the power of this pliant parliament.

The laſt offer is a groſs affront to the very being of parliament, and to the people, who alone can conſtitute a houſe of commons. The commiſſioners offer a reciprocal deputation of an agent or agents, from the different ſtates, who ſhall have the previlege of a ſeat and voice in the parliament of Great-Britain; or if ſent from Britain, in that caſe to have a ſeat and voice in the aſſemblies of the different ſtates to which they may be deputed reſpectively, in order to attend the ſeveral intereſts of thoſe by whom they are deputed. In the three conciliatory acts not a ſyllable is to be found of any ſuch intention in the legiſlature. Were agents from the different ſtates of America to have a voice in this houſe to tax Great-Britain, when by the ſame conciliatory acts they themſelves, and America could not be taxed?

It is poſſible, Sir, that the commiſſioners might be as little in earneſt to ſecure effectually to the Americans what was offered, as they were at the time to demonſtrate their good faith. They ventured, Sir, to aſſure the congreſs, that the three conciliatory acts paſſed with ſingular unanimity. The contrary is known to be fact. I now, Sir, ſee many gentlemen in their places, who oppoſed all the three bills. When a bill of great importance paſſes with unanimity, I believe, Sir, that you think it your duty to give it a further weight by the addition of nemine contradicente in the votes. In the votes, Sir, you have not given that ſanction to any of the three conciliatory bills. By the words ſingular unanimity, an Engliſhman would conclude that this was the ſingular inſtance of unanimity that ſeſſion, in reſpect to the three acts, which were conſidered as one, and paſſed on the ſame day. The learned Scottiſh ſecretary of the commiſſioners muſt think differently, for I find eight inſtances, and perhaps there are more, in the ſame ſeſſion of reſolutions and orders paſſed, and entered in the votes nemine contradicente. Of this number are thoſe reſpecting the calling out the militia, the relieving the roman catholics from certain penalties and diſabilities, and lord Chatham's annuity act. With the ſame regard to truth, he makes the commiſſioners declare in their proclamation, that the French monarchy ever has been, and in its conſtitution ever muſt be, an enemy to all freedom of laws and religion. I own, Sir, I was ſurpriſed at ſuch an aſſertion from a gentleman, who had acquired great reputation beyond the Tweed, as profeſſor of moral philoſophy in the univerſity of Edinburgh. I thought that the French nation were formerly called Franks, from the freedom of their conſtitution. I have read in the (d) authors, that the people of France were wont to be bound by ſuch laws only, as they had publicly agreed to in their parliaments, and that the people were conſulted about the heads of all new laws, and after they had given their conſent, they ſet their hands and ſeals to each article. Such was the power of the people, till the tyranny of their kings in later times ſwallowed up all the rights of that nation. I beg pardon, Sir, for this digreſſion at ſo late an hour, but it was on a favourite topic, the rights of the people. I return to that important ſtate paper, the letter of the commiſſioners to the congreſs, of the 9th of June. The letter tells them, that notwithſtanding the pretended date, or preſent form of the French offers to North-America, yet it is notorious, that they were made in conſequence of the plans of accommodation previouſly concerted in Great-Britain, and with a view to prevent our reconciliation, and proſecute this deſtructive war. This fact too is miſtated. The conciliatory propoſitions were not made by the noble lord with the blue ribband till the 19th of February, and the French treaty was actually ſigned the 6th preceding, and the preliminaries were agreed to December 5th. The parliament had been prorogued from the 10th of December to the 20th of January, notwithſtanding the ſtrong oppoſition of the minority, for in that period peace might have been obtained. The truth of the caſe is that France trifled with the Americans till after the news of the capitulation at Saratoga. There was much ill humour on both ſides, but it was not improved on our part as it ought to have been. A Britiſh general and an entire army becoming priſoners, made him believe ſeriouſly in the independence of America. Before that period, he had treated it as viſionary, a mere phantom of a heated brain. The weak, infant connection of France with America is at length grown into maturity. Spain was more in earneſt, and from the beginning had effectually aſſiſted the congreſs with vaſt ſupplies of every kind from the Havannah. The capitulation was ſigned at Saratoga on the 16th of October. The news of that event came to Verſailles the firſt week in December, and on the 16th preliminary articles were adjuſted. France on that occaſion, from a ſtrange inadvertency, ſuffered a remarkable expreſſion to be made public, that it was manifeſtly the intereſt of France, that the power of England ſhould be diminiſhed by the ſeparation of America from it. This was the language of ſound policy on her part. When the love of liberty in the French court was held forth in great parade, it became ridiculous in the extreme. We know that there is no more love of liberty in the French court, than in our own; but I rejoice that liberty will have a reſting place, a ſure aſylum in America, from the perſecution of almoſt all the princes of the earth.

The conduct of our miniſters, Sir, has effected the ſeparation of America. She never will return, nor are you equal to coerſive meaſures. By the attempt you will bring on an immediate certain French, and probably a not diſtant Spaniſh war. I am alarmed for the conſequences to this country in its preſent exhauſted ſtate. Will the firſt miniſter of finance tell us, that he ſees his way through it, even for the next four or ſix years? I have fears for our own honour and ſecurity, mentioned in the ſpeech, as calling loudly upon us, when I conſider our diſtracted and diſunited kingdom, and compare it with the condition of the French monarchy, and the active ſpirit of a nation containing twenty-two millions of perſons, united by affection to one ſovereign, England, in conjunction with America, had nothing to fear. When ſome conſiderable merchants waited on the firſt lord of the admiralty, his lordſhip ſaid, I have ſhips enough, but want men. Can you provide them for me? The American reſources are gone. Without her reſources, all her weight even thrown into the oppoſite ſcale, that ſcale muſt preponderate. Acknowledge the independence of America, you have a chance of detaching her from France, of forming perhaps with her a moſt advantageous commercial treaty, and federal union. I really think you might then avoid a general war. Since the acceſſion of the preſent king, I know that the firſt idea, the favourite object of the French court, has ſteadily been to bring the finances of that kingdom into perfect order; but the favourable moment of humbling her ancient rival, by the American conteſt muſt not to be neglected. France has fatally ſucceeded. The fact cannot be diſſembled nor diſguiſed. America is in my opinion irrecoverably loſt. It is indifferent to her, whether you think proper to acknowledge her independency, or to call her children your ſubjects, and her provinces your colonies. The reſt of the world will hear thoſe appellations with deriſion. You will not be able to enforce any one act, except while your armies are quartered and your fleets stationed. The very expence of thoſe fleets and armies muſt exhauſt this country. You experienced this for four years with raw, undiſciplined farmers and countrymen. You are now to combat hardy, experienced ſoldiers. Let us therefore yield to prudence, withdraw your fleets and armies, give up this unjuſt, barbarous, and deſtructive war, and enquire who deluded you into this unhappy ſyſtem of policy.

The honourable gentleman, Sir, who ſeconded the amendment, in a divine ſtrain of eloquence, ſcarcely paralleled, never ſurpaſſed within theſe walls, has treated the ſpeech with merited indignation. He pronounced it falſe, demonſtrated it to be ſo, and called it the king's libel on parliament. His was a moſt abundant harveſt. He has left me a very ſmall gleaning, only reſpecting the clandeſtine ſupply of money ſaid to be given by the court of France to the Americans. Sir, it was not clandeſtine. Frequent and conſiderable ſupplies were given in the moſt public manner, in the face of day. I had the honour more than once of informing the houſe, of ſeveral American veſſels, and

(b) *The principles of penal laws, a large volume, published by Blair, in Fleet-ſtreet, now written by William Eden, Eſq; member for Woodſtock, a lord of trade, one of the under ſecretaries of ſtate for the northern department, and auditor, and one of the truſtees of Greenwich hoſpital.*

(c) *Governor Johnſtone.*

(d) *Lord Kaimes, who wrote the account of Denmark, tranſlated the excellent treatiſe on the ſubject of the famous Dutchman, Francis Hotoman, called Franco Gallia.*

ships of war, being supplied with cannon, arms, powder, ball, and all warlike stores, from the royal arsenals and dove-houses, both on the coast, and in the Mediterranean. I gave the names of the ships and the other particulars at the time. Was this a clandestine supply?

Much miscellaneous matter has been produced, as usual, on this first day of the session. The honourable gentleman, who moved the amendment, has taken the opportunity of painting in their true colours the last race of our kings, whom he called the accursed Stuart race, the bane of England. I honour those genuine whiggish principles, in which I believe him sincere and determined. No man, Sir, execrates the memory of those tyrants more than I do. Yet one remark in the present moment I cannot forbear. The Stuarts lost every thing for themselves only, their crowns, or their lives. The empire remained entire, unbroken in every part. Nothing was lost for us. Under the third prince of the Brunswick line, administration has already lost us half the British monarchy, and the rest seems mouldering away. Nothing appears stable, or secure, except the ministerial majority in this house. In the late glorious reign, the bounds of the empire were enlarged in every quarter of the world, under the auspices of a brave, martial, humane, and heroic sovereign. We are now ignominiously driven out, not only from some of our late acquisitions, but from the greater part of our ancient possessions. The enquiry into this sad reverse is surely our duty as the grand inquest of the nation.

Some remarks, Sir, were made by the honourable gentleman, who seconded the amendment, on the late publications from the families of two noble earls. He thought it clearly proved from the letter of the son, that the father, so long suspected of guiding the measures of the state, no longer possessed any controuling power, or even secret influence. He avowed an unbounded respect, and a kind of family regard to the noble lord. I have the misfortune of differing in this instance very widely indeed with the honourable gentleman. I hold the public character of the noble lord in utter abhorrence; not from any personal injury, not from a national prejudice, but from his demerit as a minister. He made the inglorious peace of Paris.

Ex illo fluere ac retro sublapsa referri
Spes Danaum; fractæ vires.

He boasted of that peace in a great assembly. I heard him declare that he gloried in it, and wished it might be inscribed on his tomb-stone, here lies the man who made the peace of Paris. The expression was more striking than original (*); but the species of pride, which is founded in deep criminality, must be allowed to be of the first cast. He lost us Newfoundland, passed the odious excise on cider and perry, by which the exciseman got access into private houses, violated the national faith with the king of Prussia, was guilty of scandalous profusion of the public money in negociating a loan of three millions and a half for 1763, and advised a cruel proclamation, by which he persecuted the brave free Corficans, as I believe he has since done the Americans. These, Sir, are the grounds of hatred, which I have always avowed. I agree with a late great statesman, that he has brought the king and kingdom to ruin. As to his influence being at an end, would to God, Sir, it was! Is the heir of that noble family being lately created an English peer, a proof of the father's now remaining no influence? Is the lieutenancy of a considerable county given to the same nobleman to be admitted as evidence that his power is extinguished? I give no private anecdotes. I only state public facts, from a paper, which in such

(*) *The original expression belonged to another Scot, a Mr. Thomas Scot, one of the Tyrannicides, who was executed at Charing Cross, October 17, 1660. In the second volume of the state trials is an account of his trial and execution.*

Sir Theophilus Biddolph sworn.

Council. Pray tell my lords and the jury what you have heard the prisoner say, touching this business of putting the king to death.

Sir Theophilus Biddulph. I did hear him confess that he did sit as one of the judges of the late king, and that he was so far from repenting of the act that he did before, when he died, that a tomb-stone might be laid over him, with this inscription, here lies Thomas Scot, who adjudged to death the late king. Page 332.

At his execution the sheriff interrupted him. Mr. Scot said, I shall say no more but this, that it is a very sweet and bad world that will not bear the words of a dying man. Then he prayed, wherein he had this expression, I say again, to the praise of the free grace of God, I bless his name, he hath enabled me to see a cause not to be repented of. I say, a cause not to be repented of. His prayer being ended he made his last and Page 409.

things only can be trusted, the London gazette. I rejoiced, Sir, that the heir of that noble family was created an English peer, for I thought that the young lord's unaffected reputation, intrinsic merit, and great as well as amiable qualities, would reflect back more honour than he could receive from a modern peerage of this country, but I was persuaded that he owed his English peerage no less than his birth to his father.

A brave, but unfortunate general, Sir, urges us to an enquiry into the causes of the failure of the late expedition under his command, and he asks a parliamentary inquest. I am likewise for that enquiry. At the close of the last session he made the same request, which was refused by the same majority, to whom he now prefers his petition. I have a high esteem for a parliamentary inquest, but there is a higher tribunal, that of the people, our constituents, ever ready to do justice to the oppressed and injured. As an Englishman, let him appeal to the people, and constitute the English nation the judges of his conduct and honour, in every point in dispute between him and administration, or even royalty. He observes that the time will come for an enquiry. It will certainly come in this mode, whenever he chuses to publish the papers, which he furnished to, and are now withheld by ministers, papers of the utmost importance, according to his declaration in this house, to the state, to parliament, and to the public.

The amendment moved to the address goes still farther, and takes larger ground, including however that of a late American commander. It proposes to enquire into all the late fatal counsels, which have brought on a dismemberment of the empire. The justice of the nation calls loudly for it, and therefore my feeble voice shall be for that wise and necessary measure.

LONDON.

WESTMINSTER, *July* 5.

THIS day his majesty came to the house of peers, and being in his royal robes, seated on the throne with the usual solemnity, Sir, Francis Molyneux, knight, gentleman usher of the black rod, was sent with a message from his majesty to the house of commons, commanding their attendance in the house of peers. The commons being come there accordingly, his majesty was pleased to give the royal assent to

An act for removing certain difficulties with respect to the more speedy and effectual manning of his majesty's navy for a limited time.

An act for augmenting the militia.

And one private bill.

After which his majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious speech.

My LORDS and GENTLEMEN,

THE many great and essential services you have rendered to me and to your country, during the course of your attendance in parliament, demand my most cordial thanks.

I have seen with entire approbation the zeal you have manifested for the support and prosecution of the just and necessary war in which I am engaged, nor am I less sensible of your attention to the present state of the kingdom of Ireland: my paternal affection for all my people makes me sincerely anxious for the happiness and prosperity of every part of my dominions.

Hitherto the events of war have afforded the court of France no reason to triumph on the consequences of their injustice and breach of public faith; and I trust by a spirited and prosperous exertion of the force you have put into my hands, that ambitious power may be brought to wish that they had not, without provocation, or cause of complaint, insulted the honour and invaded the rights of my crown.

I have already acquainted you with the hostile step which has been lately taken by the court of Spain. Whatever colour may be attempted to be put upon that unjust proceeding, I am conscious that I have nothing to reproach myself with: it has been followed by the clearest demonstrations of the loyalty and affection of my parliament to my person and government, for which I repeat to you my warmest thanks; and I consider it as a happy omen of the success of my arms, that the encrease of difficulties serves only to augment the courage and constancy of the nation, and to animate and unite my people in the defence of their country, and every thing that is dear to them.

The advanced season of the year requires that I should afford you some recess from the public business; and I do it with the less reluctance, as by the powers vested in me by law, I can have the aid of your advice and assistance within fourteen days, should any emergency make it necessary for me to convene you before the usual time.

Gentlemen of the house of commons,

The various and extensive operations of the war have unavoidably occasioned uncommon expence, and brought additional burthens on my faithful and beloved people, which I most sincerely regret. I cannot sufficiently thank you for the confidence you have reposed in me, and for the cheerfulness and public spirit with which the large supplies of the current year have been granted.

My lords and gentlemen,

It is impossible to speak of the continuance of the rebellion in North-America without the deepest concern; but we have given such unquestionable proofs of our sincere disposition to put an end to these troubles, that I must still hope, that the malignant designs of the enemies of Great-Britain cannot long prevail against the evident interests of those unhappy provinces, and that they will not blindly persist in preferring an unnatural and dangerous connection with a foreign power, to peace and re-union with their mother country.

Then the lord chancellor, by his majesty's command, said,

My lords and gentlemen,

It is his majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the 5th day of August next, to be then here holden; and this parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday the 5th day of August next.

BY THE KING.
A PROCLAMATION.

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS we have received intelligence that preparations are making by our enemies to invade this our kingdom, the safety and defence of which require our utmost care, and wherein by the assistance and blessing of God, we are resolved not to be wanting; and to the intent that they may not, in case of their landing, strengthen themselves by seizing the horses, oxen and cattle of our subjects, which may be useful to them for draught or burthen, or be easily supplied with provisions; we have thought fit, and do by this our royal proclamation, by the advice of our privy council, strictly charge and command the warden of the cinque ports, his lieutenants and deputy or deputies, and all and every the lieutenants and deputy lieutenants of our counties, and all sheriffs, justices of peace, mayors, bailiffs, and all and every other officers and ministers, civil and military, within their respective counties, cities, towns, and divisions, that they cause the coasts to be carefully watched, and upon the first approach of the enemy, immediately to cause all horses, oxen and cattle, which may be fit for draught or burthen, and not actually employed in our service, or in the defence of the country, and also (as far as may be practicable) all other cattle and provisions to be driven and removed to some place of security, and to such a distance from the place where the enemy shall attempt, or appear to intend to land, so as that they may not fall into the hands or power of any of our enemies; wherein nevertheless it is our will and pleasure, the respective owner thereof may suffer as little damage, loss or inconvenience, as may be consistent with the public safety; and we do hereby further strictly charge and command all our subjects to be aiding and assisting to the execution of this our royal command.

Given at our court at St. James's the 9th day of July, 1779, in the 19th year of our reign.

GOD save the KING.

July 7. On Thursday evening last, an express arrived at the admiralty, and to the ministers of state, from Sir Charles Hardy, with an account of his having taken a frigate, going from France to count d'Orvilliers's fleet, with dispatches, from the captain of which we learn the following particulars: That, on the 4th of June, a signal was made from Ferrol, for the sailing of nine sail of Spanish ships of the line, besides frigates, that the above ships effected a junction with the French fleet, under the command of the count d'Orvilliers, on the 12th (the 16th the rescript was delivered in London, by count d'Almadovar) which made their united force forty-two sail of the line. Sir Charles adds, from the superiority of the French and Spaniards, he makes no doubt but they will venture an engagement, and that he is determined to give them battle. He further advises, that he was then off Ushant, in chace, and in sight of the enemy; that all his fleet was well, and the officers and men in the highest spirits, and that he hoped to be able, in the next dispatches, to give such an account of the united fleets of France and Spain, as would be highly satisfactory to his sovereign and his country.

The Culloden is fitted to join the grand fleet in Torbay, and in a few days will follow the Resolution, Terrible, Sandwich, Formidable, Barfleur, Arrogant, Marlborough, and Alfred, with the Princess Amelia.

The general conjecture now is, that the combined fleets of France and Spain will make the attack of Gibraltar and Port Mahon.

July 23. Sir Charles Hardy failed from Torbay laſt Friday. Commodore (late governor) Johnſtone's fleet, left Portſmouth the ſame day, with ſive frigates, to look into St. Maloes and Breſt.

NEW-YORK, *Sept.* 22.

Captain Colclough, in the ſhip Catherine, left Cork on the 20th of July, under convoy of his majeſty's ſhip Roebuck, sir Andrew Snape Hammond, commander, the Delight ſloop of war, and two large Eaſt-Indiamen well manned. The whole convoy conſiſting of 42 ſail, containing a reinforcement of troops, Britiſh and Heſſians, a vaſt quantity of ſtores, proviſions, &c. He parted from the fleet on the 14th inſt.—and this morning we were moſt agreeably ſaluted with intelligence of sir Andrew and the fleet being arrived at Sandy-Hook.

On Monday arrived a large ſhip of near 500 tons, prize to the Virginia, captain Ord, laden with proviſions at Boſton, and deſtin'd for the Weſt-Indies, to ſupply the French navy under count d'Eſtaing; ſhe proved to be the Rochampton victualler taken laſt fall on her voyage to Quebec. The Virginia has alſo taken another prize, a ſchooner.

ANNAPOLIS, *October* 15.

The following gentlemen are elected delegates in the next general aſſembly.

For St. Mary's county; John Hatton Reed, James Jordan, Philip Key, and John Mackall, Eſquires.

Charles; Joſeph Hanſon Harriſon, John Digges, Warren Dent, and Samuel Hanſon, jun. Eſquires.

Calvert; William Fitzhugh, Charles Williamſon, Alexander Hamilton Smith, and Friſby Freeland, Eſquires.

Baltimore; Thomas Cockey Deye, John Stevenſon, Rezin Hammond, and Charles Ridgely, Eſquires.

Frederick; George Stricker, John Hanſon, John Beatty, and Fielder Gauntt, Eſquires.

Harford; John Taylor, James M'Comas, John Archer, and Benjamin Bradford Norris, Eſquires.

Waſhington; John Stull, John Barnes, Joſeph Sprigg, and James Chaplin, Eſquires.

Montgomery; Edward Burgeſs, Thomas Cramphin, William Bayly, and Thomas Sprigg Wootton, Eſquires.

Baltimore-town; David M'Mechan and Mark Alexander, Eſquires.

September 16, 1779.

TO be SOLD to the higheſt bidder, by the ſubſcriber, on the premiſes, on Monday the 25th day of October next, if fair, if not the next fair day a tract of land, containing about 500 acres, about three miles from Annapolis, with many other [illegible] too tedious to mention.

JOHN HAMMOND, [illegible] THOMAS.

October 4, 1779.

To be SOLD at vendue, for ready money or ſhort credit with ſatisfactory ſecurity, the following ſubjects, viz.

ON Wedneſday the 27th of October current, in the town of Nottingham, the lots and houſes where Mr. Charles Hagart lately kept ſtore. On Friday the 29th of October, in the town of Benedict, the lots and houſes where Mr. William Clagett lately kept ſtore. On Wedneſday the 3d of November, in the town of Leonard-town, the lot and houſes where Mr. Archibald Campbell keeps ſtore. Alſo three tracts of land in St. Mary's, to wit: Danby, containing 250 acres; Maiden Lot, 100 acres, adjoining to Danby, and lying about three miles from St. Mary's warehouſe, towards the bay; Aberdeen, 128½ acres, lying about one mile from St. Mary's warehouſe, towards Patowmack. On Saturday the 6th of November, in George-town on Patowmack, the lot and houſes where Mr. Joſeph Belt lately kept and Mr. John Beall now keeps tavern. Alſo the water-ſide lot in ſaid town, where Mr. Robert Peter formerly and Robert Ferguſon lately kept ſtore. The improvements on this lot are a large ſtone houſe with cellar the whole length, divided by a ſtone wall, in one of which is a kitchen chimney, ſo contrived that the houſe will ſerve for a ſtore or dwelling houſe. Alſo a large wooden houſe with cellar the whole length under [illegible]

[illegible]

Annapolis, October 11, 1779.

DOCTOR B. VENDALL, is juſt arrived in this city. Thoſe who are diſpoſed to apply to him, may find him at the coffee-houſe, where they may commit him in all the diſorders of the teeth, &c. &c. &c.

TO BE SOLD,

A HEALTHY, honeſt, mulatto woman, about twenty-three years of age, with two fine girls, her children. She is an exceeding good cook, can do any kind of houſe work, and waſh, iron, and ſpin cotton, well, and is a good ſeamſtreſs of coarſe work. She will be ſold, with or without her children, to any perſon in Annapolis, Baltimore-town, or in the neighbourhood of either. For terms, and further particulars, enquire of THOMAS GASSAWAY, Annapolis.

September 2, 1779.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the ſubſcriber intends to preſent a petition to the next general aſſembly, for an act to paſs for the better eſtabliſhment of his title to ſeventy-five acres of land, part of a tract called Colerain, lying and being in Queen-Anne's county, in the ſtate of Maryland, which part was ſold by a certain John Croney to William Bancker, late of the county aforeſaid, deceaſed, on the 25th day of February 1748-9, as by his bond doth appear; and a deed in conſideration of the aforeſaid bond appears to have been duly executed by the ſaid Croney for the ſame, on the 30th day of July, 1753, with an endorſement thereon, empowering a certain Ogle Thorpe to acknowledge the ſame deed; who, failed to comply therewith, &c.

WILLIAM BANCKES,
ſon of ſaid deceaſed.

N. B. If prevented from having ſaid petition heard at the time aforeſaid, I intend to offer the ſame at the next ſeſſion of aſſembly after.

October 9, 1779.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the inhabitants of Prince-George's pariſh (lying in Prince-George's and Montgomery counties) intend to offer a petition to the general aſſembly of the ſtate, praying a diviſion of the ſaid pariſh.

ALL perſons who have any demands againſt the eſtate of maj. Kenhelm Truman Stoddert, late of Charles county, deceaſed, are deſired to bring in their accounts, &c. Thoſe who ſtand indebted are likewiſe deſired to ſettle with [illegible] STODDERT, adm'r.

ANNAPOLIS RACES.

September 10, 1779.

To be run for, on the 27th of October next, over the courſe near this city, the four mile heats,

A PURSE of ONE THOUSAND POUNDS, free for any horſe, mare or gelding; aged to carry 133 pounds, ſix years old to carry 126, five years old to carry 119, and four years old 112.

On the day following will be run for, over the ſame courſe, the three mile heats,

A PURSE of FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS, free for any horſe, mare or gelding, under ſix years old; five years old to carry 119 pounds, four years old 112, and three years old 100 pounds.

On the third day will be run for, the two mile heats,

A PURSE of THREE HUNDRED and SEVENTY-FIVE POUNDS, free for any horſe, mare or gelding, under five years old; four years old to carry 112, three years old to carry 100.

Any horſe winning two clear heats either day to be entitled to the purſe; the winning horſe each preceding day to be excepted. Any horſe running for either purſe to be entered with Mr. George Mann, two days before the day of running, otherwiſe to pay double entrance at the poſt; non-ſubſcribers to pay 60 dollars the firſt day, ſecond day 30 dollars, third day 20 dollars. Subſcribers to pay half entrance each day. Proper judges will be appointed to determine all matters of diſpute, agreeable to the rules of racing.

The horſes to ſtart each day at ſix o'clock preciſely.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the corporation of the city of Annapolis intends to petition the next General Aſſembly for a law to paſs enabling them to lay a further aſſeſſment on all property, and to regulate commons within the ſaid city, and to diſpoſe of [illegible] DEAN ſtreets, now ſtopped up and uſeleſs to the inhabitants.

Annapolis, September 9, 1779.

THE ſubſcriber wants a number of Country SHOES, made, for which good wages will be given; ſhoemakers may take them in ſmall quantities.

A CURRIER will meet with encouragement by applying to

WILLIAM [illegible]

Of whom a good [illegible] may be had for [illegible] ſhoe thread.

RAN away from the ſubſcriber, on the [illegible] day of this inſtant, September, a [illegible] ſervant man named WILLIAM LAVERS, a tailor by trade, about five feet ſix inches high, born in the weſt of England and talks much that country dialect; ſhort black hair and [illegible] hind; he is a well made fellow, though he [illegible] in his walk; eye-brows large and black, his complexion rather fair than otherwiſe; had on when he went away a light coloured mixed broad-cloth coat turned, with pockets in the inſide, a narrow ſtriped French cloth jacket with lapels, white caſſimer breeches, white thread ſtockings, an old round hat bound round the edge with binding, black leather pumps with long quarters; he took with him a brown country linen ſhirt pieced in the ſleeves with white, and white wriſtbands, one white linen ſheeting ditto. Whoever apprehends and ſecures the ſaid William Lavers, ſo that he may be had again, ſhall receive thirty-ſeven pounds ten ſhillings if taken up fifteen miles from the city of Annapolis, if within that diſtance twenty pounds, paid by

the 15 RICHARD BURLAND.

September 28, 1779.

FOR SALE,

TWO tracts of land in the commonwealth of Virginia, one of them laying in the county of Berkley, joining the lands of Meſſrs. Rutherford, Nourſe, and Waſhington, containing [illegible] acres, without improvements. This tract lies in an agreeable neighbourhood, and is of the beſt quality. Captain Thomas Rutherford, who lives adjoining, will ſhow the land, and is empowered to ſell it. The other tract lays in Loudoun county, on the eaſt ſide of the Blue-Ridge, near Snickers-Gap, contains about 2300 acres. This land produces fine crops of indian corn and ſmall grain of every kind, is well watered, has improved meadow, and a large quantity of land capable of being made into meadow. It would be unneceſſary here to give a further deſcription of theſe lands, as no doubt the purchaſer would chuſe to ſee them. Mr. Snickers, or Mr. Rutherford, who lives on the land, will ſhow this laſt mentioned tract, and I will attend myſelf on the premiſes, the 30th day of November next, to treat with any gentleman diſpoſed to purchaſe, or at any time before or after at my own home in Weſtmoreland county, Virginia.

[illegible] G. WASHINGTON.

Charles county, September 20, 1779.

I HAVE in my cuſtody, committed as a runaway, a negro man, named HARRY, who ſays he belongs to a certain Ninian Beall Magruder, living on Captain John, in Montgomery county; he is a ſhort well made fellow, and appears to be about thirty years of age; had on when taken up, an old caſtor hat, two old jackets, an old white linen ſhirt, a pair of old trouſers, and an old pair of ſhoes. His maſter is deſired to take him away, and pay charges to

BENJAMIN CRAWOOD, jun. acting ſheriff.

THREE HUNDRED POUNDS REWARD.

September 25, 1779.

RAN away from the ſubſcriber, on the 18th inſtant, living near Northampton furnace, about 12 miles from Baltimore-Town, a likely black NEGRO man, named SIMON, about 36 years of age, 5 feet 8 or 10 inches high, well made, by trade a blackſmith; had on when he went away, a new tow linen ſhirt and trouſers much worn, a blue broad-cloth waiſtcoat much worn, one old linſey ditto, a pair of ſhoes lately ſoaled and nailed in the heels, an old hat; if any other cloaths they are unknown, but it is ſuſpected that he will get other cloaths and endeavour to make his eſcape, as he is a very artful fellow. Whoever takes up and ſecures the ſaid negro, ſo that his maſter may get him again, ſhall have if taken within 10 miles from home, twenty-five pounds; if 20 miles, thirty pounds; if out of the county, one hundred and fifty pounds; if out of the ſtate the above reward, and reaſonable charges if brought home, paid by

[illegible] CHARLES TOWSON.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN, at the Poſt-Office, in Church-ſtreet.